

IN THE CLAIMS:

Would the Office kindly amend the Claims as follows:

1.(currently amended) A door ladder assembly suitable for use with an above ground swimming pool, the assembly comprising:

a ladder having a plurality of steps;

a door having a first side hingedly connected to one side of said ladder and arranged to hingedly move between opened and closed positions;

a handle located at a top portion of said door, said handle comprising an upwardly extended door portion having an aperture therein to permit grabbing of said door to move said door between said opened and closed positions;

a door lock to lock said door in a closed position; and

a lock operator to lock and unlock said lock, said lock operator being located proximate said handle.

2.(cancelled) The assembly of Claim 1 wherein said handle comprises an upwardly extended door portion having an aperture therein to permit grabbing of said door to move said door between said opened and closed positions.

3.(original) The assembly of Claim 1 wherein said lock is located on a second side of said door.

4. - 6. cancelled

7.(new) A door ladder assembly suitable for use with an above ground swimming pool, the assembly comprising:

a ladder having a plurality of steps;

a door having a first side hingedly connected to one side of said ladder and

arranged to hingedly move between opened and closed positions;

door biasing means such that said door is biased to urge said door towards a closed position; and

a lock operator to lock and unlock said lock, said lock operator being located proximate said handle.

8.(new) The assembly of Claim 7 further including lock biasing means to bias said lock operator to a position to cause said lock to be in a locked position.

9.(new) A door ladder assembly suitable for use with an above ground swimming pool, the assembly comprising:

a ladder having a plurality of steps;

a door having a first side hingedly connected to one side of said ladder and arranged to hingedly move between opened and closed positions;

a handle located at a top portion of said door;

a door lock to lock said door in a closed position;

a lock operator to lock and unlock said lock, said lock operator being located proximate said handle; and

lock biasing means to bias said lock operator to a position to cause said lock to be in a locked position.

10.(new) The assembly of Claim 7 wherein said door biasing means comprises a spring member connected to said door.